Thomas A. Edison Papers Digital Edition

Edison-Miller Family Records

Family Records Series, Part V

[F5F08-F] Correspondence, Mrs. Edison's Whitman & Barnes Mfg. Co. Stock (1917-1918)

Family Records Series -- Edison Family Papers -- Mina Edison Papers

Title
[F5F08-F] Correspondence, Mrs. Edison's Whitman & Barnes Mfg. Co. Stock (1917-1918)

Description
This folder contains correspondence relating to Mina Edison's efforts to sell her shares in the Whitman & Barnes Manufacturing Co., an Akron-based company that manufactured tools and farm implements. The principal correspondents are investment broker Claire App and Stephen B. Mambert, financial executive of Thomas A. Edison, Inc.

URL

https://edisondigital.rutgers.edu/folder/F5F08-F

Identifier

F5F08-F

Type

Family Records

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Is Part Of

Family Records Series -- Edison Family Papers -- Mina Edison Papers

Alternative Title

Correspondence -- Mrs. Edison's Whitman & Barnes Mfg. Co. Stock (1917-1918)

Has Version

Archive.org Viewer, Microfilm Series Reel 285

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[F5F08AA], Letter from Gilbert Eliott & Co, F C Ball to Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.) Edison, May 2nd, 1917

Title
[F5F08AA], Letter from Gilbert Eliott & Co, F C Ball to Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.) Edison, May 2nd, 1917

Author

- Ball, F C
- Gilbert Eliott & Co

Recipient
Edison, Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.)

Mentioned

- Mambert, Stephen Babcock
- Whitman and Barnes Manufacturing Co

Date
1917-05-02

Type
Letter

Subject
Stocks, bonds, and investments

Folder ID
F5F08-F

Microfilm ID
285:720

Document ID
F5F08AA

URL
https://edisondigital.rutgers.edu/document/F5F08AA

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Timestamp
2 May 1917

Has Version
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Gilbert Eliott & Co.
27 Pine Street, New York
Telephone John 6210

May 2, 1917.

Mrs. Thomas A. Edison,
Llewellyn Park,
Orange, N.J.

Dear Madam:

We beg to confirm our telephonic conversation of this date in reference to WHITMAN & BARNES MFG. CO. stock and to advise that at the present time we can pay $90. per share for any part of 100 shares, the dividend of May 15th included. We can also sell, subject to previous sale, 100 shares at 97½, May 15th dividend included.

The market is extremely wide, but this is the best we can do at the moment.

Assuring you that we appreciate past favors and trusting to be in receipt of definite advices, should you desire to either buy or sell, we are

Yours very truly,
GILBERT ELIOTT & CO.
per

EC. Ball, Mgr.,
Miscellaneous
Securities
Department.
VM.

Mr. Ball understands that Mrs Edison holds 77 + 10% on 88 Shares.
Stock on 6% Basis.

Mr. Marchant I want to sell this stock and would like you if possible. Will you take this up with proper persons.

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[F5F08AB], Letter from Claire App to Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.) Edison, June 7th, 1917

Title
[F5F08AB], Letter from Claire App to Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.) Edison, June 7th, 1917

Author
App, Claire

Recipient
Edison, Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.)

Mentioned
Whitman and Barnes Manufacturing Co

Date
1917-06-07

Type
Letter

Subject
Stocks, bonds, and investments

Folder ID
F5F08-F

Microfilm ID
285:721

Document ID
F5F08AB

URL
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7 June 1917

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Look up the stock request - in March

CLAIRE APP

HIGH GRADE

INVESTMENTS

AKRON, OHIO June 7, 1917.

Mrs. Thomas A. Edison,

Orange, N. J.

Dear Mrs. Edison:

I had an inquiry for 50 shares of Whitman & Barnes just before receiving your card. Part of this order has already been filled, only an odd number of shares being now wanted. This was the only order in the market at this time.

I will be very glad to let you know regarding the next inquiry for this stock I have. In the meantime you might advise whether or not you would care to split up your 50 shares, in case there was a demand for a less number, or whether you would only dispose of the 50 in one lot.

Yours very truly,

Claire App

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[F5F08AC], Telegram from Stephen Babcock Mambert to Claire App, October 10th, 1917

Title
[F5F08AC], Telegram from Stephen Babcock Mambert to Claire App, October 10th, 1917

Author
Mambert, Stephen Babcock

Recipient
App, Claire

Mentioned

- Edison, Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.)
- Whitman and Barnes Manufacturing Co

Date
1917-10-10

Type
Telegram

Subject
Stocks, bonds, and investments

Folder ID
F5F08-F

Microfilm ID
285:722

Document ID
F5F08AC

URL
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10 October 1917

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1347-2-2500-517

TELEGRAPHIC COMMUNICATION
THOMAS A. EDISON AFFILIATED INTERESTS
ORANGE, NEW JERSEY

OCTOBER 10 1917 191

LABORATORY — Division or Department

WESTERN UNION — Telegraph Company — 5:45 PM — Time of Filing

Telegram [X] Day Letter [ ] Night Letter [ ] Paid [ ] Collect [ ]

CLAIRE APP
401 SECOND NATIONAL BUILDING
AKRON OHIO

MINA M EDISON ACCEPTS BID EIGHTY NINE FOR TWENTY FIVE SHARES
WHITMAN BARNS STOCK

S B MAMBERT

CONFIRMATION
To Addressee

1347-2-2500-517

TELEGRAPHIC COMMUNICATION
THOMAS A. EDISON AFFILIATED INTERESTS
ORANGE, NEW JERSEY

OCTOBER 13 1917 191

LABORATORY — Division or Department

WESTERN UNION — Telegraph Company — 12:25 PM — Time of Filing

Telegram [X] Day Letter [ ] Night Letter [ ] Paid [ ] Collect [ ]

CLAIRE APP
401 Second National Building
Akron Ohio

MY TELEGRAPHIC OFFER TENTH TO SELL TWENTY FIVE SHARES
WHITMAN BARNES AT EIGHTY NINE KINDLY WIRE ANSWER
R H ALLEN ASHWOOD TERRACE WEST ORANGE COLLECT

S B MAMBERT

CONFIRMATION
To Addressee

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[F5F08AD], Telegram from Stephen Babcock Mambert to Claire App, October 13th, 1917

Title
[F5F08AD], Telegram from Stephen Babcock Mambert to Claire App, October 13th, 1917

Author
Mambert, Stephen Babcock

Recipient
App, Claire

Mentioned

- Allen, Ralph Henry
- Whitman and Barnes Manufacturing Co

Date
1917-10-13

Type
Telegram

Subject
Stocks, bonds, and investments

Folder ID
F5F08-F

Microfilm ID
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Document ID
F5F08AD

URL
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TELEGRAPHIC COMMUNICATION
THOMAS A. EDISON AFFILIATED INTERESTS
ORANGE, NEW JERSEY

OCTOBER 10 1917 191

LABORATORY — Division or Department

WESTERN UNION — Telegraph Company — 5:45 PM — Time of Filing

Telegram [X] Day Letter [ ] Night Letter [ ] Paid [ ] Collect [ ]

CLAIRE APP
401 SECOND NATIONAL BUILDING
AKRON OHIO

MINA M EDISON ACCEPTS BID EIGHTY NINE FOR TWENTY FIVE SHARES
WHITMAN BARNS STOCK

S B MAMBERT

CONFIRMATION
To Addressee

1347-2-2500-517

TELEGRAPHIC COMMUNICATION
THOMAS A. EDISON AFFILIATED INTERESTS
ORANGE, NEW JERSEY

OCTOBER 13 1917 191

LABORATORY — Division or Department

WESTERN UNION — Telegraph Company — 12:25 PM — Time of Filing

Telegram [X] Day Letter [ ] Night Letter [ ] Paid [ ] Collect [ ]

CLAIRE APP
401 Second National Building
Akron Ohio

MY TELEGRAPHIC OFFER TENTH TO SELL TWENTY FIVE SHARES
WHITMAN BARNES AT EIGHTY NINE KINDLY WIRE ANSWER
R H ALLEN ASHWOOD TERRACE WEST ORANGE COLLECT

S B MAMBERT

CONFIRMATION
To Addressee

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[F5F08AD1], Telegram from Claire App to Ralph Henry Allen, October 13th, 1917

Title
[F5F08AD1], Telegram from Claire App to Ralph Henry Allen, October 13th, 1917

Author
App, Claire

Recipient
Allen, Ralph Henry

Mentioned

- Edison, Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.)
- Whitman and Barnes Manufacturing Co

Date
1917-10-13

Type
Telegram

Subject
Stocks, bonds, and investments

Folder ID
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Microfilm ID
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Document ID
F5F08AD1

URL
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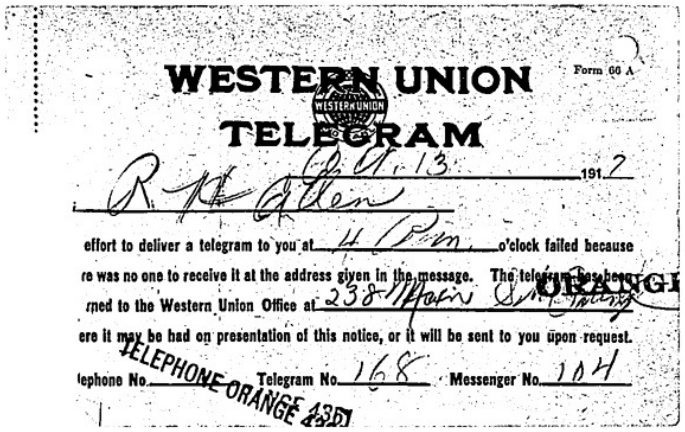

WESTERN UNION

Form 66 A

TELEGRAM

Oct. 13 1912

R. H. Allen

effort to deliver a telegram to you at 4 P.m. o'clock failed because
re was no one to receive it at the address given in the message. The telegram has been
rned to the Western Union Office at 238 Main St. ORANGE
ere it may be had on presentation of this notice, or it will be sent to you upon request.

TELEPHONE ORANGE 435

lephone No. Telegram No. 168 Messenger No. 104

Sold 2 WUB 89
Wm. Edison
$1.25 q.
Com app
Corr

Sold 2# white wyandotte
Barnes 89 Wm Edison
and so wired her
yesterday. Please
rush delivery.
6+9-3 Blaine Appl

Blaine
Appl

Attribution

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[F5F08AE], Letter from Claire App to Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.) Edison, October 20th, 1917

Title
[F5F08AE], Letter from Claire App to Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.) Edison, October 20th, 1917

Author
App, Claire

Recipient
Edison, Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.)

Mentioned

- Allen, Ralph Henry
- Mambert, Stephen Babcock
- Whitman and Barnes Manufacturing Co

Date
1917-10-20

Type
Letter

Subject
Stocks, bonds, and investments

Folder ID
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Microfilm ID
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Document ID
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URL
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20 October 1917

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CLAIRE APP

HIGH GRADE

INVESTMENTS

AKRON, OHIO October 20, 1917.

Mrs. Mina M. Edison,

Orange, N. J.

Dear Mrs. Edison:-

On or about the 9th of this month I addressed cards to Whitman & Barnes stockholders quoting the market. In reply on the 10th, I received a wire signed S. B. Mambert reading "Mina M. Edison accepts bid 89 for 25 shares Whitman Barnes stocks".

On the 11th I wrote you regarding the situation and on the 12th, having made a sale, I wired you as follows: "Sold twenty five shares Whitman Barnes for you at eighty nine net", and confirmed this by letter.

On the 13th I received a message signed H. B. Mambert reading "My telegraphic offer tenth to sell twenty five shares Whitman Barnes at eighty nine. Kindly wire answer R. H. Allen, Ashwood Terrace, West Orange, collect.

I presumed Mambert to be your secretary but cannot understand this wire of the 13th, when I had already wired and written on the 12th. However I sent a message to R. H. Allen on the 13th, as follows: Sold twenty five Whitman Barnes eighty nine Mrs Edison and so wired her yesterday. Please rush delivery".

Not having heard anything at all in reply to these various communications, nor received any stock, I sent a wire on the 18th to S. B. Mambert reading "Advised Mrs. Edison by

wire and letter Friday of sale twenty five Whitman Barnes. Also wired R. H. Allen, West Orange, Saturday confirming sale, at your suggestion. Will you kindly advise me by mail regarding stock and when I may expect delivery."

Up to this writing, Saturday P. M., I have had no reply to this last wire.

The parties to whom I sold have been asking for delivery of stock. I have had to make excuses for the delay. The situation is such now that purchasers may make a demand on me-at any time-for the stock, or they may refuse to accept it should it come in within a few days. I heard of some other stock that I might have had but turned it down because I had sold yours for you.

In order that I may be in a position to satisfy the purchasers of the 25 shares, will you kindly wire me as soon as possible when I may expect delivery. I would like to make a report Monday morning.

Trusting I may hear from you as above, I am,

Yours very truly,

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[F5F08AF], Letter from Claire App to Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.) Edison, October 24th, 1917

Title
[F5F08AF], Letter from Claire App to Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.) Edison, October 24th, 1917

Author
App, Claire

Recipient
Edison, Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.)

Mentioned

- Mambert, Stephen Babcock
- Whitman and Barnes Manufacturing Co

Date
1917-10-24

Type
Letter

Subject
Stocks, bonds, and investments

Folder ID
F5F08-F

Microfilm ID
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Document ID
F5F08AF

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24 October 1917

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CLAIRE APP

HIGH GRADE

INVESTMENTS

AKRON, OHIO October 24, 1917.

Mrs. Mina Miller Edison,

Llewellyn Park, Orange, N. J.

Dear Mrs. Edison:-

The 25 shares Whitman & Barnes stock came in to the First Second National Bank yesterday and I immediately took same up, paying draft for $2225.00

Our letters relative to this transaction must have crossed. Not having had any other advice but a wire, and that from some other party, I wanted to be sure the transaction was all right.

If I had had the stock to offer yesterday, I could have sold a 10 share lot at 89 net. If you wish to dispose of more and will give me a firm order to do so, it will give me something to work on. You can give me the limit as to price and the total number of shares. Also the smallest number you would sell. That is if you had 50 to sell, whether you would let 10 go, if that was the only order at that time.

Yours very truly,

Claire

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[F5F08AG], Letter from Stephen Babcock Mambert to Claire App, October 24th, 1917

Title
[F5F08AG], Letter from Stephen Babcock Mambert to Claire App, October 24th, 1917

Author
Mambert, Stephen Babcock

Recipient
App, Claire

Mentioned

- Edison, Charles
- Miller, Harry Frederick
- Edison, Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.)
- Whitman and Barnes Manufacturing Co

Date
1917-10-24

Type
Letter

Subject
Stocks, bonds, and investments

Folder ID
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Document ID
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THOMAS A. EDISON

ORANGE, N.J.

OFFICE OF
FINANCIAL EXECUTIVE

October 24, 1917.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
CHARLES EDISON — CHAIRMAN
THOMAS A. EDISON
S. D. HAMBERT — FINANCIAL EXECUTIVE
H. F. MILLER — TREASURER
R. W. KELLOW — SECRETARY

Mr. Claire App,
Akron, Ohio.

Dear Mr. App:

Mrs. Edison has just referred to me for answer your letter of October 20, 1917, and it is a matter of deep regret to both Mrs. Edison and myself that conditions within our control should be such as you very justly describe in your letter.

On behalf of Mrs. Edison and myself I wish to express to you our apology for the inconvenience which you have been caused by a misunderstanding for which you were in no way to blame.

The facts of the case are that for the past six months I had been handling matters of this nature for Mrs. Edison, it having been decided about three years ago that the financial interests of the Edison family were extensive enough to require the services of an executive, who would be authorized to decide questions of a financial policy, etc. which are constantly coming up in regard to the different companies in which the Edison family were financially interested.

Mrs. Edison referred to me the card relative to the Whitman & Barnes stock to which you refer in the first paragraph of your letter, and I immediately wired Mrs. Edison's acceptance of bid for 25 shares.

At the time this occurred Mrs. Edison was away from home, and it was unfortunate that your reply, instead of being addressed to me in regard to the wire which I sent you, was addressed to Mrs. Edison, and whatever telegrams and letters you sent her naturally were forwarded from address to address without attaining the definite result which you desired.

In answer to my follow-up inquiry of the 13th asking for an answer, I received the wire to which you refer in the fourth paragraph of your letter, and I immediately communicated with Mrs. Edison and from her received the confirmation that you had communicated with her direct. As soon as I received your wire of the 18th, I endeavored again to get in touch with Mrs. Edison, but in view of the fact that the matter had to a certain extent been taken out of my hands by your direct communication to her, I was not able to push the matter to the extent I would have had I been handling same direct with you.

DICTATED TO AND TRANSCRIBED FROM THE EDISON DICTATING MACHINE

We regret very much the inconvenience which you have been caused by this misunderstanding, and Mrs. Edison, Mr. Charles Edison and the writer have spent considerable time reviewing the causes of the delays to which you refer, and I believe that the combination of circumstances which have made possible your very just complaint have been entirely removed and a repetition of same in connection with any of our future business relations, either with you or with anyone else, will be practically impossible.

In the meantime Mrs. Edison received from the custody of her Treasurer, Mr. Miller, the 25 shares of stock referred to in your communication and forwarded same to you on Friday, the 19th.

Thanking you for your patience and kindness throughout this entire matter, I am,

Very truly yours,

S.B.M.

Financial Executive.

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[F5F08AH], Letter from Claire App to Stephen Babcock Mambert, October 27th, 1917

Title
[F5F08AH], Letter from Claire App to Stephen Babcock Mambert, October 27th, 1917

Author
App, Claire

Recipient
Mambert, Stephen Babcock

Mentioned

- Edison, Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.)
- Whitman and Barnes Manufacturing Co

Date
1917-10-27

Type
Letter

Subject
Stocks, bonds, and investments

Folder ID
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Microfilm ID
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Document ID
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URL
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CLAIRE APP

HIGH GRADE

INVESTMENTS

AKRON, OHIO October 27, 1917.

Mr. S. B. Mambert, Financial Executive.,
Thomas A. Edison, Orange, N. J.

Dear Sir:-

I appreciate your letter of the 24th, just at hand. However no apologies were necessary. The people to whom I had made the sale were calling me up every day and I was anxious to give them a definite date of delivery. In case there had been a mix up I wanted to know it as soon as possible so as to look elsewhere for the stock.

The reason I wrote direct to Mrs. Edison, I did not know of your present arrangement. I had also had some correspondence with Mrs. Edison on a personal matter and her reply was always signed by another party, presumably by her secretary. I presumed the Whitman & Barnes matter was being handled in a similar manner.

If I can be of further service I trust I may hear from you again.

Yours very truly,

Claire App

Attribution

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[F5F08AI], Telegram from Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.) Edison to Stephen Babcock Mambert, February 1st, 1918

Title
[F5F08AI], Telegram from Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.) Edison to Stephen Babcock Mambert, February 1st, 1918

Author
Edison, Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.)

Recipient
Mambert, Stephen Babcock

Mentioned

- Edison, Charles
- Miller, Harry Frederick
- Edison, Theodore Miller

Date
1918-02-01

Type
Telegram

Subject
Stocks, bonds, and investments

Folder ID
F5F08-F

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285:730

Document ID
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1 February 1918
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Form 2289 K

WESTERN UNION

NIGHT LETTER

GEORGE W. E. ATKINS, VICE-PRESIDENT NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT BELVIDERE BROOKS, VICE-PRESIDENT

RECEIVED AT 220 MAIN ST. ORANGE, N. J.

4NY H 34 NL

KEY WEST FLO FEB 1-18

STEPHEN B MAMBERT

EDISON LAB ORANGE NJ

CHARLES AND HARRY MILLER CAN GET BONUS STOCK IF CHARLES
AWAY THIRDON WILL GO WITH HARRY MILLER KEY IN HOME
SAFE THIRDON KNOWS COMBINATION THANK YOU FOR LOOKING AFTER CONDITION
HOT HERE ALL WELL.

MINA M EDISON

717AM FEB 2

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[F5F08AJ], Letter from Stephen Babcock Mambert to Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.) Edison, February 4th, 1918

Title
[F5F08AJ], Letter from Stephen Babcock Mambert to Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.) Edison, February 4th, 1918

Author
Mambert, Stephen Babcock

Recipient
Edison, Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.)

Mentioned

- Fidelity Trust Co
- Edison, Charles
- Miller, Harry Frederick
- Edison, Theodore Miller
- Edison, Thomas Alva

Date
1918-02-04

Type
Letter

Subject
Stocks, bonds, and investments

Folder ID
F5F08-F

Microfilm ID
285:731

Document ID
F5F08AJ

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4 February 1918

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THOMAS A. EDISON

ORANGE, N.J.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
CHARLES EDISON — CHAIRMAN
THOMAS A. EDISON
S. D. HAMBERT — FINANCIAL EXECUTIVE
H. F. MILLER — TREASURER
R. W. KELLOW — SECRETARY

OFFICE OF
FINANCIAL EXECUTIVE

February 4, 1918.

Dear Mrs. Edison:

On Saturday I received from you the following telegram:

"Charles and Harry Miller can get Bonus Stock. If Charles away Theodore will go with Harry Miller. Key in home safe. Theodore knows combination. Thank you for looking after condition. Hot here. All well."

Mr. Charles was absent, and Mr. Theodore stated that he had no written authority from you to secure access to the safe deposit vault. Upon communication with the Fidelity Trust Company, I was informed that your written permission would be necessary in order to secure possession of the Whitman and Barnes Stock.

I therefore wired you as follows:

"Kindly send me special delivery letter, as follows: February second, nineteen eighteen, I hereby designate for this one time only Mr. Harry F. Miller as my deputy to have access and control of the contents of safe number four six nine, now rented by me of Fidelity Trust Company. Signed Mina M. Edison, witness, Thomas A. Edison."

Upon receipt of the temporary appointment thus provided, I will promptly secure the stock certificates and forward them to the National City Bank, Akron, Ohio.

Faithfully yours,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY MR. HAMBERT,

Mrs. Thomas A. Edison,
Key West, Florida.

DICTATED TO AND TRANSCRIBED FROM THE EDISON DICTATING MACHINE